

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing an interface for accessing home devices that are currently connected to a home network, the method comprising the steps of:

generating a device list file in an autonomous and dynamic manner, wherein the device list file identifies home devices that are currently connected to the home network, and periodically refreshing the device list file by:

autonomously detecting that a home device is currently connected to the home network,

associating a logical device name with the home device, and
storing the logical device name in the device list file;

creating a device link page, wherein the device link page contains at least one graphical or textual representation of corresponding devices that are identified in the device list file;

associating a hyper-text link with each device representation, wherein the hyper-text link provides a link to a web page that is contained in the device that is associated with the device representation; and

displaying the device link page on a browser based device.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating the device link page includes the step of:

retrieving a logical device name from the device list file;

storing the logical device name in the device link page; and

converting the logical device name to a device button.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating the device link page includes the steps of:

retrieving a device ICON image from a home device;

creating a device button based on the device ICON image; and

storing the device button in the device link page.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating the device link page includes the steps of:

retrieving a device LOGO image from a home device;

creating a manufacturer device button based on the device LOGO image; and

storing the manufacturer device button in the device link page.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of associating a hyper-text with each device representation, includes the steps of:

retrieving a URL from a home device, wherein the URL is maintained in a properties file associated with the home device; and

associating the URL with the device representation that is associated with the home device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of storing the manufacturer device button in the device link page includes the steps of storing the manufacturer device button in a user definable area of the device link page.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of retrieving the URL from the home device includes the steps of retrieving the URL from a properties file that is stored on the home device.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are connected to the home network.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are disconnected from the home network.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are connected to, and disconnected from, the home network.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of autonomously determining the network location and availability of the devices that are connected to the home network.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are connected to the home network.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are disconnected from the home network.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the steps of generating the device list file further includes the steps of dynamically and autonomously updating the device list file as devices are connected to, and disconnected from, the home network.

Claims 16 - 20. (Cancelled)

Claims 21 - 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented) An agent that provides an interface for accessing home devices that are currently connected to a home network, the agent comprising:

a list file generator that generates a device list file in an autonomous and dynamic manner, wherein the device list file is dynamically refreshed periodically to identify home devices that are currently connected to the home network;

a link page generator that creates a device link page, wherein the device link page contains at least one graphical or textual representation of corresponding devices that are identified in the device list file, the device link page further including a hyper-text link associated with each device representation, wherein the hyper-text link provides a link to a web page that is contained in the device that is associated with the device representation; and

a renderer that displays the device link page on a browser based device as a graphic user interface.

35. (Previously presented) The agent of claim 34 further comprising a session manager that matches device capabilities and user selections in one graphic user interface with device capabilities and user selections in another graphic user interface, to facilitate compatible device selection, thus simplifying use of the home network.

36. (Previously presented) The agent of claim 35 wherein the session manager further enables a user to initiate an available service on the home network that can be performed by one or more home devices by:

obtaining particular capabilities of a selected home device by accessing the selected device;

searching particular capabilities of other home devices listed in the device link page for matches to the particular capabilities of the selected home device;

for each other home device found to have a matching capability to the selected home device, allowing the user to select that other home device.